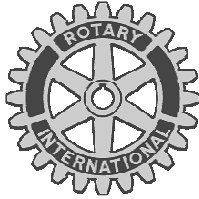


April 30, 2007



Rotary Oil is a Publication of the Rotary Club of Bradford, Pennsylvania

ROTARY OIL

Lots of News, Some Meanderings--- Or the Other Way Around

www.bradfordrotaryclub.org

Rotary Club of Bradford

Officers

Rick Esch, President
Sam Deeter, President Elect
Barb Kervin, Vice President
Carleton Campbell, Secretary
Terry Lopus, Treasurer
George Evans, Immediate Past President
Don Fredeen, Sgt. at Arms

Board of Directors

Ralph Detweiler, PDG
Kimberly Young O'Mara
Dennis Swineford
Bob Brest
Dave Sheneman
Woody Woodruff

Club Committee Chairs

Dave Sheneman
Chairman
Carleton Campbell
Attendance Committee
Kimberly Young O'Mara
Club History/Web Site Committees
Bill Chapman
Fellowship Committee
Ralph Detweiler
Honors and Awards Committee
Jim O'Mara
Membership Development Committee
Barb Kervin
Nominating Committee
Rotary Information Committee
Dick McDowell
Program Committee
Susan Evans
Public Relations Committee
George Evans
Club Bulletin/Newsletter Committee
Jim Evans
Rotary Foundation Committee

“The best portion of a good man’s life is the little, nameless, and unremembered acts of kindness and love.” William Wordsworth

Longtime Rotarian and prominent community member, Robert Steckmeyer passed away January 28th, 2007.



Bob Steckmeyer(center) with Jody Lama and Helen DeFrank

Excerpts from the Rotary’s Eulogy for Bob, delivered by President Richard Esch.

Bob Steckmeyer . . . an extraordinary loyal servant, one of the most dedicated among all of the people you would ever care to meet.

Bob was dedicated beyond all belief to his wife Sara, to his family, to his friends, to his community, to his country, and surely he was the finest example you could ever find of a truly loyal Rotarian. He lived a life of telling the truth, of helping others, of reaching out to those in need, of caring and compassion, and at every moment he never took a front seat or jumped in front of the camera.

Bob was quiet and unassuming, never a pretentious gesture or word came from him. Oh, don’t get me wrong...he was a stickler for beginning and ending our weekly luncheons on time, just as he was a stickler for making sure each of us Rotarians followed the good word and good works of our founder, Paul Harris.

Bob was genuinely knowledgeable about the world and about Rotary. He was forever enthusiastic about Rotary and the good deeds that Rotary brought to the community. And those good deeds, for more than 50 years, had much to do with the mission of Rotary as they did with Bob Steckmeyer himself.

And just think of that . . . more than 50 years as a Rotarian. There is a dash in one’s life, that dash is the stretch that God gives each of us from our day of birth to our day of death. Bob spent a good part of that dash as a Rotarian, and the Bradford Rotary will forever remain grateful and appreciative of Bob Steckmeyer’s example. In so many ways, from father to grandfather to husband and friend, Bob’s life was

Service Committee Chairs

Club

Dave Sheneman

Community

Garry Pugrant

Chris Sotir

Woody Woodruff

International

Ralph Detweiler

Vocational

Dennis Swineford

CLUB OFFICERS

Officers (2007-2008)

Sam Deeter- President

Barb Kervin- President-Elect

Kimberly Young O'Mara - Vice President

Susan Evans- Secretary

Terry Lopus- Treasurer

Don Fredeen- Sergeant-at-Arms

Rick Esch- Immediate Past President

Board Term

2007-2010, three full year

Sam Deeter

Susan Evans

Don Fredeen

Chris Sortir

Kimberly Young O'Mara

Board Term

2006-2009, two remaining years

Bob Brest

Carlton Campbell

Dave Sheneman

Woody Woodruff

Board Term

2005-2008, one remaining year

Ralph Detweiler, PDG

Barb Kervin

Terry Lopus

(continued from page 1) one of sheer emulation.

Surely our hearts are broken as he returns home to where his life began, but knowing Bob he would not want us to cry and weep. Because of his deep faith, which he lived out everyday, today is really a homecoming for Bob. And he would want us to celebrate today that way, as a homecoming. He would want us to cry and weep when the Patriots lose a football game, but never for anything else including his own trip back home.

When you read about the Four Way test of Rotary, beginning with the truth be known and told and secured, there will always be one picture alongside, that of Bob Steckmeyer. He was like Barnabas in the New Testament, he encouraged all of us to do and be our best, and to be humble about it.

Bob, because we know that you are listening: On behalf of the Rotary Club of Bradford and Rotary International, your brothers and sisters will always cherish your life and try to be the example that you so unselfishly and so steadfastly followed without fail everyday of your life.

We will not weep as we praise your life and the glory you brought to each of us. We are assured that Heaven is welcoming you right now, trumpeting your arrival as both a great Rotarian and a great man.

Sergeant at Arms, Don Fredeen remembers Bob...

I had the opportunity to serve with Bob Steckmeyer on the Bradford District Flood Control Authority board for several years. He was a long-time member and very knowledgeable about the flood control project. Two defining memories of Bob come to mind:

It was customary for the board chairman to receive a higher monthly stipend than the other members. When the long-standing chairman, Ed Heck, passed away Bob was elected to succeed him as chairman. He accepted with the stipulation that in the future all members would receive an equal stipend, and the chairmanship would be rotated every year. He was clearly the most qualified person on the board, and its acknowledged leader, but he felt that everyone should share responsibility for leadership.

In one of his final years on that board, we were conducting our annual inspection, which involved walking most of the project with a representative of the Army Corps of Engineers. (I don't think Bob ever missed an inspection in his entire tenure.) We were inspecting an area where a riverbank drain had been repaired with small limestone riprap. As we walked across the area a rock shifted, causing Bob to lose his footing and fall backward down the bank, landing hard on his back and striking his head on a rock. The rest of us were naturally concerned and began to call for an ambulance. Bob, well into his eighties, said, "No, I'll be fine, just give me a minute." In a moment or two we helped him to his feet, and after allowing that "that really smarts" he announced, "Well, we've got an inspection to finish. Let's go." Whereupon he walked the remaining mile or so. What a tough and admirable old gent he was.

MEMBER NEWS

53

At last count, at the Board meeting in December, the number of current, active members is 54!

The 54 includes 47 active and 6 honorary members.

Our Honorary members, designated by the Board adhering to the discretion accorded in the Bylaws:

- Ralph French
- James Grimm
- Bruce Hare
- Chuck Rowe
- Bruce Sherwin
- Wilbur J. Siebert

AREA CLUBS MEETINGS

Jamestown

Monday, Noon
Holiday Inn

Kane

Monday, Noon
Presbyterian Church

Mt. Jewett

Wednesday, 6:15p.m.
DeSios Restaurant

Olean

Tuesday, Noon,
Bartlett Country Club

Port Allegany

Thursday, Noon
Moose Club

Sheffield

Tuesday, Noon
Senior Center

Smethport

Tuesday, Noon
Court Restaurant

Warren

Monday, Noon
Holiday Inn

Rotary Bowl-a-Thon Big Success

The Bradford Rotary Club first ever bowl-a-thon was a huge success. With over 26 Lane Sponsors, 50 door prize sponsors and almost 200 Bowlers, the club was able to raise over \$4500 to benefit services for children and adults with disabilities in the community and support Rotary International's world-wide efforts against the ravages of polio.

Co-Chairs, Garry Pugrant, Executive Director of Evergreen Elm and Tina Martin, Executive Director of CARE for Children were pleased by the turnout and the community support of the event.

"Next year's event will be even bigger and better. I think it was a great success for our first effort and we appreciate everyone that helped make it a success," said Pugrant.

Rotary Sponsors CARE for Children Basketball Tournament



The Pitt Bradford Lady Panthers 6th annual basketball mini camp was held at the Pitt Bradford Sports and Fitness Center on Saturday, March 24th. Pitt-Bradford Assistant Coach Brian Sansom and members of the Lady Panthers basketball team worked with CARE kids on dribbling, shooting and passing. Over 45 children attended the camp and each child received a t-shirt and mini camp basketball. Kids were treated to lunch after the camp. Rotarian's Rick Esch, Jim Evans, and Debbie Price volunteered for the camp.



This year's event was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Bradford, the Pitt Bradford Lady Panther's Basketball Team and the University of Pittsburgh Bradford. The basketball camp is one of the many therapeutic recreational programs that CARE for Children offers each year for children of all abilities in McKean County.

Top: CARE Physical Therapist Barry Simon works with Rodney age 12;
Bottom Photo: Rebecca, 8, had a great time at the camp.

Please send any news or comments for the newsletter to George Evans (362-1581, or gevans@verizon.net)

The 4-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Visit the Bradford Rotary Club website for news and great information about your club!

www.bradfordrotaryclub.org

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June 14th, 2007
Club Annual Spring Concert

*The BromeleyTheatre at the
University of Pittsburgh Bradford*

Don't Forget May 5—Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup

DISTRICT CONFERENCE May 18-20 At SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY

.Observations from Rotarians. . .

****RI's leader on the environment:** *"When we consider what we are willing to do and what we are willing to change to address an environmental problem, we must remember that our decisions never concern only us."*

--Bill Boyd, RI President

****The thing I like best about my Rotary Club meeting is:** *"The meaningful fellowship that often results in health, education, and environmental projects for communities around the world."*

--Marco Kappenberger, President, Environment Fellowship of Rotarians

****When I tell people I'm in Rotary, they:** *"Are fascinated by our work around the world, and others praise the organization because they have gotten help from Rotary."* *--Fary Moini, La Jolla (CA) Golden Triangle Rotary Club*

****Comment about the Bradford Club's weekly meetings, from a member's response to the recent Club survey:** *"I have always enjoyed the weekly meetings. I have appreciated the informative nature of the presentations. I feel that what I have learned has enlarged my quality of life in Bradford."*

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